

SECRET

TO: Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attention: R. S. J. Payish

FROM: Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT: Rasal SALAMON

1. Reference is made to the report made by SA Harry M. Whidbee at Los Angeles, dated 27 August 1949 and entitled Journal 10-131421, Bureau File Number 100-77801. This report contains information provided by one Rasal SALAMON concerning Rasal ALIEMAN, a Swedish diplomat who disappeared from the Swedish Embassy in Budapest in 1945. It is believed that the testimony of SALAMON, as recorded in SA Whidbee's report, would be of interest to the Swedish Government and to the official Swedish sources through whom this office might channel it. It is therefore requested that this office be authorized to furnish to a usually reliable Swedish official the following information:

a. A source of undetermined reliability has stated that prior to August or September of 1944 he was employed as a salesman for an export firm which manufactured woven baskets and related articles. He was well acquainted with Jews, especially those residing in the Jewish ghetto in Budapest. He helped ALIEMAN, whose main activity at this time was obtaining food, clothing and other services for Jewish refugees in Budapest after the war ended. He became closely associated with ALIEMAN.

b. The source last saw ALIEMAN in January 1945, at about the time that ALIEMAN disappeared. Source recalls that the Swedish Embassy accused the Soviets of kidnapping ALIEMAN, but he has no personal knowledge of what happened to him. The source is of the opinion, however, that the Soviets kidnapped ALIEMAN because he was one of the Jewish refugees escape from the Soviets into the West Zone of Germany.

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c. In early 1942 the Soviets began an intense persecution of the Jews. All Jews were purged from important positions of employment in Budapest and in February, 1942, about 800 Jews were arrested by the GKO in Budapest. The source was arrested by the GKO on 23 February 1942. They never told him why he was arrested but after several days in the prison he was questioned daily concerning his former association with ALLENBUSH and Jewish refugees in Budapest. After several months of interrogation, it became apparent that the GKO wanted the source to testify that in 1941 he observed ALLENBUSH's body in the basement of a bank in Budapest. The GKO also desired the source to testify to ALLENBUSH's activities on behalf of the Jews and that ALLENBUSH had frequently visited the American legation in Budapest. The source believes that the Soviets desired to prove that ALLENBUSH was an American spy and that the Americans were responsible for his disappearance. The GKO also wanted the source to testify that ALLENBUSH was connected with two Jews, Fiksa MARMOR and Lajos F. M. M., and that they were American spies. Source was released from the GKO prison in February 1943.

d. In about 1944, the source met a man whose name he does not recall but who had been recently released from a Soviet prison, a mining operation located at Tomsk in Siberia. This man confided to the source that he had worked with ALLENBUSH and with the source's brother, both of whom were prisoners at Tomsk.

e. The source claims that he had heard from others that the Soviets had admitted in 1945 that ALLENBUSH had died in a Soviet prison in the USSR. The source can not recall now whether someone told him this or whether he read it in a newspaper.

2. The proposed use of the source description, "of undetermined reliability," in paragraph 1.a. above is, of course, rather unsatisfactory in a case of this kind, and is perhaps also inaccurate. We would appreciate receiving, and being authorized to pass on to our Swedish contact, any comment or new view to make regarding Pal SZALAI's reliability as an informant in this matter.

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Based on: DHP - 32606

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